



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

DM12/1017

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/480,035	01/10/00	020	ONEILL, M	3713 10/17/00
First Named Applicant	SOBOTKA,	35 USC 154(b) term ext.	=	0 Days.

TITLE OF INVENTION RADIO FREQUENCY GAME CONTROLLER

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEES DUE	DATE DUE
2	463-039.000	T78	UTILITY	YES	\$620.00	01/17/01

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT.
PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
09/480,035	SOBOTA ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Michael O'Neill	3713	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

1. This communication is responsive to 1-10-00.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
 1. received.
 2. received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number). _____.
 3. received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

5. Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office Action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

6. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
7. Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
 - (a) because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
 - (b) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (c) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the examiner.
 - (d) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE / SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	<input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.	<input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
<input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	<input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other subst PTO-948.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record lacks in clearly disclosing a game controller with a controller unit for determining a parameter and communication that parameter to a user (claim 1).

The prior art of record lacks in clearly disclosing a game controller with a controller unit for determining the strength of transmission signals and for communicating to the user information regarding the transmission strength (claim 15).

The prior art of record, see Tanaka, U.S. Pat. No. 5,533,010, does teach and show a controller that determines a parameter, but the reference lacks in teaching or showing a means for communicating the parameter to the user. Instead, all channel switching appears to be done automatically without the user's knowledge.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

MICHAEL O'NEILL

**MICHAEL O'NEILL
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Examiner's Drawing Review

In order to relieve a backlog of work in the Drafting Department, the PTO has suspended the automatic review of drawings in new applications by a Draftsperson. The Examiner will review drawings for content only, and will only require new drawings upon allowance in cases where the original drawings are obviously informal, or contain errors in content.

In the opinion of the Examiner, the drawings filed on 1-16-00:

Are obviously informal, but acceptable for examination at this time. ~~Any additional defects in content are explained in the attached letter.~~
Formal drawings ^{are} ~~will be~~ required upon allowance, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84

Appear to be formal, and no defects were observed.

Appear to be formal, but defects therein are explained in the attached letter.